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27 March 1961

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TO: All Chiefs of Stations and Bases

FROM: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Joint Study Group Report on Foreign Intelligence Activities
of the United States Government

1. An ad hoc Joint Study Group under the chairmanship of Mr. Lyman B. Kirkpatrick was established in July 1960 to review and make recommendations concerning the most effective and efficient use of intelligence resources and to assist the Director of Central Intelligence in carrying out his responsibilities for coordinating the foreign intelligence activities of the United States Government. The Joint Study Group consisted of representatives of the Director of Central Intelligence, the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, the Director of the Bureau of the Budget, and the Special Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs. In pursuit of their task, the Group made exhaustive inquiries in Washington and other installations in the United States, and in a few selected overseas posts, in an effort to obtain the most complete picture possible of the problems along with representative views as to their solution.

2. The Study Group submitted a report on 15 December 1960 containing 43 recommendations, the bulk of which was subsequently approved by the National Security Council and the President. The approved recommendations include:

a. steps which the Department of Defense should take to provide more coordination and strengthening of the intelligence activities of the armed forces, consonant with the Defense Reorganization Act of 1958, both in Washington and overseas;

b. steps to ensure more effective coordination in the overt collection efforts of the U. S. Government;

c. improved development and coordination of requirements and their evaluation in terms of collection resources throughout the intelligence community;

d. more comprehensive community-wide coordination in future planning and programming and in research and development in the U. S. intelligence effort;

e. greater attention to counterintelligence and security; and

f. clarification of arrangements for coordination of the clandestine collection efforts of the U. S. intelligence community.

3. Under my general leadership and assisted by the newly formed Coordination Staff, steps are being taken to implement these recommendations. Several of them will have a direct bearing on the activities of many of our stations and bases as well as on the activities of the U. S. embassies and military commands abroad. Their precise effect on our stations and bases will become clear in the near future, and Headquarters will from time to time give specific and timely instructions, guidance, and information to our stations and bases as appropriate.


Allen W. Dulles
Director

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